

October 20, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 06-74, Support for Approval of AT&T /Bellsouth Merger

Dear Commissioners;

Several years ago, the North Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce recognized the emergence of the Hispanic population in Palm Beach County and its importance to the economic vitality of our region. The Board created the Hispanic Council of the Chamber, which today is comprised of 25 Hispanic business owners/professionals who serve as advocates on behalf of the Hispanic population in North Palm Beach County. The Council offers programs and resources to the thousands of Hispanic individuals that live and work in north Palm Beach County. Since this Council has as parts of its charge the education and advocacy of the Hispanic community we would like to express support for the proposed AT&T/Bellsouth merger.

In reviewing this proposed merger, the benefits derived to the underserved populations, which in many instances would include the Hispanic community, are numerous. The opportunities for lower income housing units to receive affordable broadband service is specifically enumerated in this proposal, with at 30% of all new incremental service offered to rural and lower income units. This commitment would greatly enhance the opportunities for the many Hispanic Americans who fall into this category, not only providing greater educational opportunities for their children, but business opportunities for their parents also.

I urge the Commission to approve the merger and look forward to working with Bellsouth/AT&T officials here in North Palm Beach County to ensure the successful implementation of the many great benefits this proposal will bring.

Sincerely,

Casey Steinbacher, CCE  
President and CEO